# **Youth Services Notes**

January 4, 2010, Issue 6

# Winter Reading Program



Materials for the winter reading program "Snuggle Up with Peter Rabbit " were delivered to your library early December. Stickers and two articles from Copycat Magazine should be arriving soon. The articles your library is receiving are:

**Bunny Basics:** includes information on rabbits, fingerplays, and a Peter Rabbit Paper Bag Theater.

**Bottle Gardening:** includes information on making various types of indoor gardens, books,

and garden lab worksheet.

Suggestions for use of the materials and program ideas may be found at http://virginialibraries.pbworks.com/Snuggle-Up-with-Peter-Rabbit

Your program idea may be added in the comments area or by emailing the idea to Enid.

We do have a very limited supply of booklogs, certificates, and sticker sheets and a limited supply of Book Boosters, literacy cards and stickers. Please contact us if you have a need.

Note: My thanks to Richmond Public Library for providing a copy of the "Bunny Basics" article in Copycat Magazine March/April 1994. The information and images found in these articles may not be shared electronically so we thank the copyright owner for permission to reprint and distribute the articles.

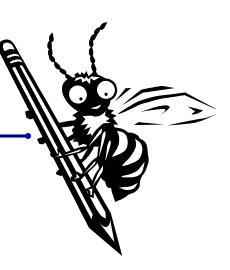
# Mini-Grant

The Library of Virginia Foundation is offering three \$500 mini-grants to public libraries in Virginia. The Mini-grants will be awarded in the areas of young children, preteens and young adults. Preference will be given to grant applications that implement programs based on information presented at a Library of Virginia workshop/online course.

Applications may be found at www.vpl.lib.va.us/funding/index.asp

## Deadline is March 15, 2010

If you have any questions regarding the application please contact Dan Stackhouse at the Library of Virginia Foundation at 804.692.2813 or dan.stackhouse@lva.virginia.gov

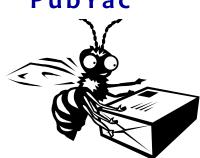


## Points of Interest

- I am back from a 6 weeks leave—recovering from surgery. During that time I may have missed an email, phone call or forgot to follow up from a conversation. If I did so, please do not hesitate to drop me a reminder.
- If the internet connection is not available at the Library of Virginia (as it was last week), you may reach us at the following telephone numbers: **Carol Adams** 804.692.3601 Kim Armentrout 804.692.3601 Paranita Carpenter 804.692.3993 Cindy Church 804.692.3773 **Enid Costley** 804.692.3765 **Rose Schoof** 804.692.3772
- We the People Bookshelf on A More Perfect Union applications may be found at publicprograms.ala.org./ bookshelf Applications are due January 28

Library of Virginia

# From PubYac



Earlier this year, I asked you guys to submit your most successful ("successful" being defined by you) programs of 2008. I found the resulting compilation to be very helpful and in fact, I replicated a number of the suggested programs, including: Stuffed Animal Sleepover (this was such a hit that a number of branches in my system replicated this one - you can see some photos here:

http://www.flickr.com/ photos/ keshengoodmanpubliclibrar y/sets/72157617267857326/

Ugly Bug Ball, Live Clue (I did a Star Wars theme), and Science Mysteries (hands-on science experiments).

Now that 2009 is coming to an end, I am looking for some new programming ideas for 2010 - and I am sure that I am not the only one. So, I thought that we could create a new list of our most successful programs of 2009.

Thanks! Danielle Dungey **Fairy Houses**—We make Fairy Houses every summer and it's a big hit with no cost involved and little staff time. We ask families to bring plenty of natural, found materials such as pine cones, shells, sticks, dried flowers (from their yard only) and a piece of bark for a base. We provide tables covered with newspaper and lots of glue guns for the adults to use, and the space to create!

Cindy Christin, Bozeman Public Library, Bozeman, MT

**Recycled Art and Antiquates**—SRP Be Creative @ Your Library tween set event -in mid-July. It will fit the NATURE OF FUN category and will be titled Recycled Art and Antiquities. Goal-to educate and entertain children in regards to recycling and recycling technologies, using books, activity stations and other media or methods, with an antiquities theme.

Total estimate of supplies needed:

- \$ 8 in glue or glue sticks or paste
- \$ 7 in plates, plastic spoons
- \$ 9 in tape, wire
- \$ 4 in construction paper
- \$ 4 miscellaneous costs
- \$20-30 w/tax 74 cents per child @ 50 participants

Materials to be used:Glue sticks, sand, cotton balls, medicinal wrapping tape, plastic spoons, construction paper, Xeroxed copies, toilet tissue, wire. paste, glue, solid waste or trash for the craft, foam or Styrofoam, recycled materials cut easily with scissors (toilet paper rolls, paper, magazines, milk containers, fast food trays, etc.) Books for educational stimulation will be featured as well.

Outline: Construct an archway constructed of recycled objects, glue, wire, etc., as well as cycle through activity stations where antiquity crafts will be assembled.

John Bradley, Spr. Greene Co. Library District, Spr. MO

Silent scavenger hunt for teens (12 & up) - borrowed from Kimberly Paone. There were 26 clues - one for each letter of the alphabet - and the program ran for approximately 90 minutes. Teens were given the clues, a pencil & scrap paper for writing questions (since they weren't allowed to speak at all), made to wear a "name tag" with a giant red S for silent. Staff could give as much or as little help on the clues as they wished - it's very important that ALL staff are on board with this. The clues ranged from using the online catalog to databases to reference books to finding back issues of magazines and items usually found in a library (like program flyers, rubber bands, bookmarks, etc).

A modification I made was that at the midpoint, we all gathered in the Teen Space and I allowed each participant to verbally ask one question. At the end of the search period, we again gathered in the Teen Space and went through all the clues to see who got them right. It sort of turned into a free-for-all so I ended up giving everyone prizes (a free book - we get LOADS of perfect-condition donations).

Carolyn Aversano, West Windsor Branch, Mercer County (NJ) Library System

**Ghosting Hunting**—Out local ghost hunting group is always a big draw for us and we just had a two person Celtic music concert - no amps, just hap, melodica, and vocals—that was very, very nice and a surprisingly big draw.

It's a local group - Paranormal Spirit Investigators (PSI). They are not part of the



# **Online Courses**

The Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC) is offering several online classes for which the Library of Virginia will reimburse up to 12 people who complete the course and then share the information with at least two other library systems.

#### **Connecting with Tween Readers**

Examine the developmental needs and abilities of children ages 10-12, and learn why children of this age group are particularly vulnerable to illiteracy. Participants will discuss unique activities and programs (including the utilizations of current popular technologies) libraries can offer to keep children on the path to becoming lifelong readers. A primary focus of the course will be studying the literature available for tweens. The instructor is Edward T. Sullivan.

#### Information Literacy—From Preschool to High School

Learn how to conduct information literacy instruction for children of all ages. Participants will be encouraged to examine their local school's and state requirements pertaining to library skills, and to develop methods of using the library to complement those requirements. The course will include examples of successful programs, and participants will also discuss ways that information literacy instruction can be a useful "outreach" tool. The instructor is Maryann Mori, Director of the Waukee (Iowa) Public Library.

#### **Series Programming for Elementary School Age**

All kids love series books! That's why this course will teach participants how to add series clubs to the library in order to get children reading and using the library more. Using trivia, games, music and reading, children will come back for more each week. Series such as Diary of a Wimpy Kid, Magic Tree House, Spiderwick, Fancy Nancy, Froggy, Curious George, and American Girl will be discussed. The instructor is Lisa M. Shaia, Children's Librarian at Oliver Wolcott Public Library.

Courses are taught asynchronously using Moodle, an online learning community. A certificate of completion will be sent to participants upon successful completion of the course. Detailed descriptions and registration information is available on the ALSC website at <a href="https://www.ala.org/alsced">www.ala.org/alsced</a>
Fees are \$95.00 for personal ALSC members, \$145 for personal ALA members and \$165 for non-members.

Mark your calendars—Summer session will begin July 19 and include Children with Disabilities in the Library and Out of this World Youth Programming

The Library of Virginia will reimburse the registration fee for 12 people for each class, once the class is successfully completed and the information is shared with at least two other library systems.

Please contact Enid at enid.costley@ Iva.virginia.gov if you are interested in taking any of the courses. library, but they did a program for us last Halloween on what they do during investigations, what equipment they use, and photos/sound recordings they have captured. They investigate reports of paranormal activity in the nearby areas - all local volunteers, they don't charge for services, they all have day jobs or are retired. We had standing room only - the public loved it and it's a great way to piggyback on the popularity of the television shows. If you do this sort of program, I would speak with them beforehand and make sure they are genuine in their efforts and not someone who will embarrass you by trying to pull some kind of prank once they get in front of an audience! ;)

Angela Thornton, Jackson-Butts County Public Library, Jackson, GA

**Earth Day craft**—I do an Earth Day craft using recycled objects. Last year we used soup cans (the ones with the lids that pull off), painted them white using gesso and then the kids painted them. I brought in potting soil and seeds and they planted flowers or herbs. I also brought in coffee grounds, orange peels, egg shells and other compostable materials and we mixed them up with the potting soil. The kids liked doing this.

Molly Beedon, Ypsilanti District Library, Ypsilanti, MI 48197

Here is a brief list of successful programs we did in the last year.

**SpongeBob Party** - We watched an episode, built a giant pineapple house, asked trivia questions and created games to play with the theme of Bikini Bottom and SpongeBob.

**Book Bingo** - Create Bingo cards with popular book characters instead of numbers.

**Puppet Show by the Librarians** - Puppetry doesn't have to be professional all the time. Kids (and adults) love puppets!

Tie-Dye with Sharpies and Fabric Markers -

http://www.stevespanglerscience.com/experiment/00000032

http://hobbylobby.com/assets/pdf/project inspiration/projects/HL-780.pdf

Marble Magnets -

http://familyfun.go.com/crafts/marble-magnets-669826/ or http://www.notmartha.org/tomake/marblemagnets/ Fire Truck Daze - The fire station is next door to the library. We read a couple books and walked over to talk to a fireman and see a real truck.

**Mad About Mo** - We celebrated the amazing Mo Willems. He's coming out with a new series next year, so it would be a great way to introduce Cat the Cat coming in February) and celebrate his classic characters such as the Pigeon, Elephant and Piggie, Knuffle Bunny, Leonardo, Edwina and Naked Mole Rat. Mo's website offers great ideas for all of his books.

**Very Hungry Caterpillar 40th Anniversary Celebration** - We read the story, sang the story, retold the story with props and made a caterpillar craft. It was a full house!

Cassie Payne, Elisha D. Smith Library— Menasha, WI

**Pokemon Club**--play the wii, learn how to draw and trade cards. We get around 100 people every month. We just play the pokemon game which is long, so only about 10 kids get turns on each machine. But the biggest draw is the card trading. It is like nothing I've seen before. Many kids come by themselves, but they jump right into trading. Kids I know to be shy in other situations have no trouble talking to total strangers. They are all so happy to be around other Pokemon fans. I actually have kids pressed up against the doors waiting for me to unlock them at 4:00. Two other fun surprises were the number of girls who come (at least 25%) and the number of dads who are bringing their kids. After a year, we are beginning to see attendance go down slightly, but there are always new people coming.

Shawn Wolf, Kenosha Public Library—Kenosha, WI

Our Top 10 most successful programs included:

**Children's Art Gallery Openings**—we chose a different school each month to display their artwork, and we invited kids and parents to gallery openings with juice, crackers, cheese, and cookies.

Preschool Dance Parties--St. Patrick's Day springtime stomp and Monster Mash around Halloween For the preschool dance party, we first select a mix of songs and copy them to a playlist for the CD. We pick our favorites ("YMCA", Jumpalong Josie, etc.). We have the program in our meeting room and cover the floor with extra large sized pompoms. This keeps the littlest ones occupied, and serves as cool decor also. We have a mic, and we MC the party and have staff members dance along to show the kids the moves. It's a lot of fun and parents

dance along with their kids. It's pitched for 2-6 year olds.

#### **Dinosaur storytime**

**Craft programs**--holidays especially

Instrument Petting Zoo/classical music concert for kids—The instrument petting zoo came about with a phone call to a local music instructor who has a small ensemble of kids' musicians. We asked them to come and play some very short pieces for the audience, and then to bring different instruments for the kids to try out themselves. Since it was an orchestra, everything was either a stringed or rhythm instrument. It was free, and lots of fun. Here, kids typically don't select an instrument to play in school until 4th grade and we found that younger children (ages 4-7) were interested in touching and playing the instruments.

Chorus sing-along
Early childhood movement and music classes
Reader's Theatre/Theatre workshops
Pottery
Stuffed Animal Sleepover

Heather McCammond-Watts, Oak Park Public Library

#### Fancy Nancy Tea Party (So successful, we had to do it twice)-

1st Party- Invited girls to dress up in their fanciest outfits. Read Fancy Nancy stories & had a Fancy Nancy and similar books on display. Taught the girls to curtsey and say fancy French phrases. Made silver duct tape tiaras, rings from pretty buttons & pipe cleaners, princess necklaces. Played tea party bingo. Had a fashion parade. Decorated sugar cookies and drank pink lemonade out of fancy plastic cups

2nd Party- Invited girls to dress up in fanciest outfits & bring their favorite dolls. Read Fancy Nancy stories & had a Fancy Nancy and similar books on display. Made felt purses, foam photo frames, & necklaces for child & doll. Played speed stacking with lifesavers. Had a cake walk (with mini cakes. everybody else got a sugar cookie.) Made & ate fruit kabobs w/ dip

#### **Pirate Paaaarty!**

As the kids came in they got to put on pirate tattoos. Read two pirate stories & had huge display of pirate & related books. Kids decorated pirate hats made from black poster board with feathers & white crayons. Kid's made pirate necklaces w/ skull beads & pirate coins from Oriental Trading. Had a treasure hunt w/ seven clues that taught them about library staff & resources. At the end each kid got a goody bag w/ an eye patch, goldfish mix, chocolate coins, & pirate stickers. Played games for paper doubloons including:

walk the plank- we painted 20 feet of paper like the ocean (use a roller on an extension) & made stand up stand shark fins to set on the ocean surface. We placed boards on bricks in three six foot sections that the kids had to walk. For every section you walked successfully without falling off you got a coin.

**fishing game**- We printed different fish & sea creatures from Microsoft clips out on card stock & cut them out. Then placed 1 metal paper clip on each. We made fishing poles out of dowel and yarn and dangled magnets from the ends instead of hooks. Kids had 1 minute to 'hook' as many fish as they could. The kid with the most fish won a coin.

**treasure bag toss**- variation on the usual bean bag toss, using a treasure box for the target. If you got all three bags in you won a coin.

**sink the ship**- Made a 6 ft pirate ship with a big cardboard box on the back. Kids had three black balloons or 'cannon balls' to launch at the ship by holding the knot, pulling back, and letting go so the balloon shot forward. If you got 2 out of 3 in the target you sank the ship and won a coin.

At the end of the party we ate cupcakes and the kids got to use their coins to buy things out of the pirate sword like pirate items from Oriental Trading company and foam board swords & hook hands the children's room staff had made.

Tracy Logan, Cadillac Wexford Public Library, Cadillac, MI

**New Moon**—Our New Moon party was a huge hit, link to plans here:

http://3tnar.blogspot.com/2009/11/new-moon-party.html

results here:

http://gtnar.blogspot.com/2009/11/new-moon-party-wrap-up.html

Chocolate Party—The teens also have a chocolate party each year, the Tuesday after Valentine's Day (to take advantage of all the clearance chocolates, and to make up for any we didn't get on V-Day!) We have watched movies like Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, made chocolate pizzas (use flour tortillas as the base), made words from the letters in "Hershey's Kisses", dipped traditional and strange things in melted chocolate, etc.

Talk Like a Pirate Day - is also a tradition here, link to that one: http://3tnar.blogspot.com/2009/09/pirate-party-follow-up.html Ami Segna—NM



# Pennies for Peace and Three Cups of Tea

Pennies for Peace, or P4P, was conceived by students and teachers at Westside Elementary School in River Falls, WI. Originally called Pennies for Pakistan, it was renamed in 1996. Since then over 100 million pennies have been raised by over 2,900 schools and Libraries all over the world. P4P is designed to educate children about the world beyond their experience and show them that they can make a positive impact on a global scale, one penny at a time. Through cross-cultural understanding and a solution-oriented approach, P4P encourages children, ultimately our future leaders, to be active participants in global peace.

The Lansing Public Library and Glenwood-Lynwood Public Library District (in Lansing IL) hosted a Community Read. The books they chose were "Three Cups of Tea" by Greg Mortensen and David Oliver Relin and the children's book "Listen to the Wind: the Story of Dr Greg & Three Cups of Tea" by Greg Mortensen and Susan L. Roth. For this event the Libraries created a comprehensive website to walk participants through all aspects of the educational and philanthropic components of the Pennies for Peace campaign. Lansing Public Library website http://www.lansing.lib.il.us/3cupsoftea.html

The Newton Free Library in Newton, MA challenged kids in the summer reading program to read 5 books each. Whenever a child came in with his/her reading log showing 5 books read, they would give that child a "spacebuck" to put on their "Reader Reach Out" bulletin board. Their goal was 500 books read or 100 spacebucks. When they reached their goal, the Friends group made a donation to Pennies for Peace.

Pennies for Peace has many free resources available to libraries and which may be found at www.penniesforpeace.org They include:

- 14 videos (both overview and curricular in nature)
- A curriculum form which activities can be drawn
- Printable pictures for displays
- Printable stickers for displays and coin containers
- **Fact Sheets**
- Template press releases
- Sample Letter for kids to use to write to their Representatives and Senators in Congress
- A glossary
- A book and movie reference list



# Notes from the Desk of the Children's and Youth Services Consultant

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### Welcome

Kerri Huff, Galax Public Library - children's librarian

# Goodbye

**Alissa Anderson**, Wythe-Grayson Regional Library **Rochelle Thompson**, Wythe-Grayson Region Library

### **Kudos**

#### **Loudoun County Public Library**

featured on page 20 of the December 2009 American Libraries

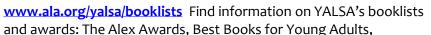
#### **Newport News Public Library**

featured on page 48 of the December 2009 American Libraries

### **Back Soon**

Kathy McNalley, Buchanan County Public Library

www.ala.org/yalsa Information about YALSA membership, programs and activities can be found on the YALSA site. A "For Members Only" section offers exclusive annotated lists of recommended books, audio books, videos and DVS, special subject bibliographies, and archives of YAttitudes, our online newsletter.





Margaret A. Edwards, Michael L. Printz, Odyssey Award, Outstanding Books for the College Bound, Popular Paperbacks for Young Adults, Quick Picks for Reluctant Young Adult Readers, Selected Audiobooks, Fabulous Films for Young Adults, and Teens' Top Ten, and William C. Morris Debut Award.

www.ala.org/teenread The official web site of Teen Read Week also provides year round information about adolescent literacy and resources to assist librarians, teachers, and parents in their efforts to improve teens' reading skills and encourage them to "read for the fun of it." Teen Read Week is October 17-23, 2010 with a theme of "Books with Beat @ your library

www.ala.org/teentechweek Teen Tech Week is aimed at getting teens to use their libraries for the different technologies that are offered there. Teen Tech Week is March 7-13, 2010. The theme is "Learn Create Share@your library" Registration is open through February 9.

<u>www.ala.org/teenstopten</u> Teens vote each year during Teen Read Week on their favorite book to create an exciting nationwide list of books chosen for teens by teens as the best reads of the year. Information about this project, current nominations and past winners are available.

<u>www.ala.org/yalitsymposium</u> YALSA will host a symposium November 5-7 2010 with a theme "Beyond Good Intentions: Diversity, Literature, and Teens."